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## House of Representatives

The House met at 10:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore [Mr. FUNDERBURK].

### DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,

May 15, 1995.

I hereby designate the Honorable DAVID FUNDERBURK to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NEWT GINGRICH,

*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

### MORNING BUSINESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 4, 1995, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning hour debates. The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to not to exceed 30 minutes, and each Member except the majority and minority leader limited to not to exceed 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida [Mr. MICA] for 5 minutes.

### SETTING THE RECORD STRAIGHT

Mr. MICA. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I come before the House this morning to set the record straight, to provide you, Mr. Speaker, and my colleagues, with correct information on statements that have been made about comments that I made on the floor in the regulatory reform debate which took place recently in the House of Representatives during our debate on the Contract With America, and specifically on the regulatory reform issues that came before this Congress.

In this Congress and during the past Congress, I have been an outspoken

critic of the manner and conduct of the regulatory process at the Federal level. Quite frankly, I came here several years ago believing that the regulatory edicts and mandates sent out by the Federal Government had overreached their bounds, had imposed undue burdens and costs on our citizens, on our local governments, on business and industry, and were eating at the very fabric of productivity and competitiveness in this country.

During the debate on the question of regulatory reform, I stood at that podium and I talked about several instances of what I considered excess regulation and regulatory overkill.

I used several examples, and two of the examples I used were actually from my local dentist, who when I was in his dental chair and in his dental office had told me several years ago about some of the excesses of certain Federal departments and agencies, and how he felt imposed upon by those agencies and how he was constricted by those agencies, and at least felt the pressures of those agencies on his practice and on his professional conduct.

So I made those comments in the regulatory reform debate in the House, and shortly thereafter "ABC News" and Peter Jennings and company made a little series, and I wanted to report to the House on that series, and also on the response. The people of the United States and Congress tuned into the "ABC News" and heard a certain response, and I never got an opportunity. You know, they interview you for, in this case, about an hour of tape, and then they take little segments out, and then they put on the national news those segments.

Interestingly enough, and as Paul Harvey said, there is a little bit more. Here is the rest of the story. I want to present that to the House this morning.

Let me quote from the National Review, and I did not prompt their doing

this piece or I did not ask them to look into this matter. It just appeared, and some of my constituents sent it to me. But let me quote exactly from it. I will read it.

Hot on the heels of the GOP's capture of Congress, ABC World News Tonight has unveiled a new segment, "For the Record," designed to ferret out congressmen who engage in exaggeration, false statistics, misleading anecdotes, and other evils. The inaugural segment focused on Representative John Mica (R., Fla.), who alleged that certain Occupational Safety and Health Administration regulations forbid kids to take pulled teeth home from the dentist, and that others compel dentists to keep logs for possession and disposal of white-out. Wild congressional exaggeration, right? Actually, OSHA's Blood Borne Pathogen Standard labels bodily tissues as biohazards. Teeth are considered tissue, and technically must therefore be placed in a red bag and picked up by a licensed disposer. Furthermore, because certain brands of white-out contain toluene, OSHA requires that Manufacturers Safety Data Sheets be kept in office files. Dr. Edward Stein, a health scientist at OSHA, says that white-out's levels of toluene are far below those which concern OSHA and that the requirement does not pertain to offices with fewer than 10 people. However, he concedes that if an individual in an office with fewer than 10 people filed a complaint about white-out, OSHA would be free to investigate. As for the teeth? A dentist in the Northeast refused to return a tooth to a 6-year-old boy because he was concerned about the health regulation. OSHA's unofficial position is that this was unnecessary. However, the regulation does require such action. For the Record.

In conclusion, this story by National Review does set the record straight, and that is, my colleagues, the rest of the story.

### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. There being no further requests for morning business, pursuant to clause 12, rule I, the House will stand in recess until 12 noon.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 37 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess until 12 noon.

□ 1200

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore [Mr. FUNDERBURK] at 12 noon.

#### PRAYER

The Chaplain, Rev. James David Ford, D.D., offered the following prayer:

Teach us always, gracious God, to use our words as instruments of information and understanding, as agents of communication and contact, so that our expressions bring us together and allow us to share in our common heritage and our collective concerns. Remind us that we should choose our words wisely for we know that comments clearly stated and given for the purpose of knowledge can promote harmony and mutual assurance and can lead all people to greater respect and reverence toward one another. Bless us and all Your people, O God, this day and every day. Amen.

#### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. TRAFICANT] come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. TRAFICANT led the pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

#### MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had passed without amendment a concurrent resolution of the House of the following title:

H. Con. Res. 64. Concurrent resolution authorizing the 1995 Special Olympics Torch Relay to the run through the Capitol Grounds.

#### VETERANS BENEFITS

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, check this out. Military bases are closing all over America. Veterans benefits are

being cut. Veterans cost-of-living allowances are being cut. Veterans outpatient clinics are being closed. Veterans pensions are being slashed.

Think about that. What bothers me is our Government is going to provide 25,000 dollars' worth of vouchers to buy houses for Russian soldiers. Beam me up. Maybe I missed something down here. We have got veterans literally sleeping on steel grates, trying to find an opportunity to get a job, but we are giving \$160 million to Russia so that these Russian troops coming back from the Baltics will be able to find a place to live. If they cannot, we, the American taxpayer, will build them a house for \$25,000.

Ladies and gentlemen, is there any reason why we are bankrupt? America has the best government that Russia ever had and that most of these other countries ever had. While we are going south, they are all doing well with our tax dollars.

I say it is time to send some of these American gurus who made this decision over to Siberia, let them freeze their buns a little bit over there and maybe it will get them a house back here in America.

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to proceed out of order for 3 minutes.)

#### H.R. 390

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, since no one else is here at this point, H.R. 390 is a bill that would change the burden of proof in the tax case. Right now, if you go to a tax court on a civil case, the IRS can lien your house, take your bank account, take your parakeet, take your rubber duckie, and you have to prove you are innocent because you are considered guilty in that court.

H.R. 390 says, first of all, whenever a taxpayer goes to court in America there is one standard, and that is an American is innocent until proven guilty, and I shall switch and the American taxpayer shall be deemed innocent as well.

Second of all, you have 10 days where the IRS has to let you know what problem you have with your tax form. Cite the position of the regulation or the statute, in which your tax report has some problems. And finally, before they can take your house, take your car, take your bank account, they have to present facts to a court of law and have a court order to do so.

I think it is time, my colleagues. If innocent until proven guilty worked for the Son of Sam and Jeffrey Dahmer, how is it that grandma and grandpa, mom and dad or American taxpayers are guilty and a court must prove them innocent? Let us get on with our business. I am asking whoever is in the Congress who may be watching this to cosponsor H.R. 390 and have the Committee on Ways and Means bring the bill out.

The American people should be treated at least as well as a common murderer in a tax court.

#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 6 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. YOUNG of Alaska) at 12 o'clock and 23 minutes p.m.

#### MORE FOREIGN AID CUTS URGED

(Mr. FUNDERBURK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FUNDERBURK. Mr. Speaker, America's foreign policy structure needs to be overhauled. The current system is a relic of the cold war. It is duplicative and inefficient, and its foreign aid programs are a disaster.

Despite billions of dollars, those we have given aid to are mired in poverty. In fact, we have done these countries more harm than good by promoting socialist economic and agricultural programs. Of the 15 countries receiving the most U.S. aid, the Heritage Foundation's freedom index rates 12 as "mostly unfree," 1 has a repressed economy, and 2 are rated "mostly free."

A foreign aid program which supposedly buys the good will of foreign leaders while they ruin their own countries cannot be tolerated. If it is to be handed out it must promote free market reforms. Also a majority of the countries receiving U.S. aid consistently vote against us at the U.N. Foreign aid must be tied to America's interests. Is it not about time we had an American desk at the State Department.

At a time we are talking about cutting back on housing, student aid, and farming programs it is not fair to cut foreign policy programs by only \$1 billion each year for the next 5 years as the International Relations Committee bill does. It is not enough. Streamlining the State Department's bureaucracy both here and abroad is vital. Let us tell the American people that we are serious about setting new priorities for American foreign policy. Let us cut the fat at Foggy Bottom.

#### WHO WILL BE HURT BY CUTS TO MEDICARE AND MEDICAID?

(Mr. PALLONE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material.)

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to use my 1 minute to quote some sections of a Star Ledger editorial